California Recovery Task Force

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Gov. Schwarzenegger Announces \$10 Million Recovery Act Funding Now Available Through Green Jobs Corps Grant Competition

Governor's Green Jobs Corps to Help State Economy, At-Risk Youth and Green Industries

Pushing American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Recovery Act) funding into the California economy quickly and with accountability and transparency, the California Recovery Task Force today announced the availability of up to \$10 million in Recovery Act funding for job training grants within the Governor's newly created California Green Jobs Corps.

"We are pumping Recovery Act Funds into our economy as quickly and effectively as possible while also helping ensure we build a qualified workforce to meet the needs of our expanding green industries," said Governor Schwarzenegger. "I strongly encourage employers and local governments to connect with their local Workforce Investment Board, community colleges and community based organizations to take an active role in securing and putting this funding to work to stimulate our economy and help at-risk youth train for promising careers in green industries."

Launched in early March, the initial phase of the Governor's California Green Jobs Corps will place at least 1,000 at-risk youth ages 16 through 24 into green jobs over the next 20 months. Investing at least \$10 million in Recovery Act funding and \$10 million from public-private partnerships, the program will consist of a minimum of 10 regional Green Job Corps throughout the state — with at least one located in each of California's nine economic regions.

Through a Solicitation for Proposal (SFP) process that begins May 1, 2009, local Workforce Investment Boards and Community Colleges can apply for the grants, with each applicant eligible to apply for a maximum of \$1 million per application. All proposals must be received by California's Employment Development Department no later than 3 p.m. on May 26, 2009. For further information regarding this SFP including eligibility and selection criteria, please click here.

California is projected to need tens of thousands of additional workers to fulfill current and future green occupations in various industries. Green jobs can be found across all industry sectors, but frequently exist in eco-friendly industries like those generating or storing renewable energy (solar, wind and water); dealing with recycling existing materials (recycling processers, wastewater plant and environmental cleanup); and dealing with energy efficient products (weatherization, solar panels and

dual pained windows). Green Jobs Corps recruits will train for technical, construction and other skilled jobs, complete community service while training and receive job placement assistance.

Governor Schwarzenegger created the California Recovery Task Force to track the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding coming into the state; work with President Barack Obama's administration; help cities, counties, non-profits and others access the available funding; ensure that the funding funneled through the state is spent efficiently and effectively; and maintain a Web site that is frequently and thoroughly updated for Californians to be able to track the stimulus dollars.

The Task Force can be reached through its Web site, <u>www.recovery.ca.gov</u>, or by telephone at (916) 322-4688.

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